

Governor's Office of Planning and Budget
116 State Capitol
Salt Lake City, UT 84114
Telephone (801) 538-1027

Utah Population Estimates Committee

Minutes

Tuesday, November 27, 2001

9:00 A.M. – 11:00 P.M.

Committee Members

Present:

Neil Ashdown,	Chair
Scott Festin,	Wasatch Front Regional Council
Ken Jensen,	Utah Dept. of Workforce Services
Patricia Murphy,	Utah Office of Education
Barry Nangle,	Utah Department of Health
Pam Perlich,	Bureau of Econ. & Bus. Res.
Ross Reeve,	GOPB
Blake Smith,	Questar
Tom Williams,	Utah Tax Commission

Staff:

Sophia DiCaro,	GOPB
Peter Donner,	GOPB
Sue Johnson,	GOPB
Lance Ro vig,	GOPB
Robert Spendlove,	GOPB

Absent:

Walt Busse,	LDS Church
Nate Millward,	Utah Board of Regents
Mike Toney,	Utah State University

Welcome and Introductions – Neil Ashdown, Committee Chair

I. Approve April 20, 2001 Minutes

Mr. Ken Jensen made the motion to approve the April 20, 2001 minutes. Mr. Scott Festin seconded the motion. The motion carried.

II. Subcommittee on Intercensal Estimates Methodology - Pam Perlich

Pam Perlich presented a brief report on the findings of the subcommittee on Intercensal Estimates Methodology. Ms. Perlich has published the findings, *Revised Utah Population*

Estimates for the 1990's, in the Bureau of Economic and Business Research publication, *Utah Economic and Business Review*.

Ms. Perlich reported that of the methods used during the 1990s, Internal Revenue Service (IRS); School Enrollment; and Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day-Saint (LDS) membership; the IRS method was the most accurate and the LDS the least accurate in matching the decennial census count.

The April 1, 2000 Census count for Utah was 2,233,169. UPEC and the Census Bureau underestimated the population count throughout the 1990's, although the estimates in some counties were quite accurate such as in Davis County where the estimation error rate was 0%.

Ms. Perlich recommended that UPEC consider using a housing unit method for population estimates and also looking at the “top down” approach rather than the “bottom up.”

III. Consideration and Approval of 2001 State and County Estimates – Robert Spendlove

Members of the committee spent the rest of the meeting carefully reviewing each county to determine the best method for each individual county, using the methodology subcommittee's analysis and Census 2000 results as a base.

The Committee looked at school enrollment, LDS membership, and IRS tax exemptions for each county and for the state. A handout of this information, as well as a computer presentation was provided by the staff. The Committee reviewed nonagricultural jobs, building permit data, and utility data in counties where a significant divergence appeared among methods. Estimates were agreed upon by committee members.

Ken Jensen moved to adopt the proposed 2001 population estimates for each county in Utah and for the state. Blake Smith seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned.